

Illinois Human Services Commission
September 25, 2013
2:00-4:00 PM
Thompson Center (Chicago), Room 9-040
Stratton Building (Springfield), Room 601

The meeting was called to order.

The co-chairs of the Illinois Human Service Commission (HSC) Greg Wass and Grace Hou provided welcoming remarks. Greg discussed the importance of the future work of the HSC and how it is different, but will build upon the work of the previous HSC that was created by Executive Order. The current HSC is legislatively mandated. A steering committee was formed to provide structure and guidance to the work and to ensure productive meetings and results. Greg provided the upcoming Commission meeting schedule and a brief introduction of the three Commission workgroups.

Acting Budget Director Jerry Stermer provided remarks on behalf of the Governor's Office, thanking the Commissioners for accepting the assignment to serve in light of the challenges that shape our reality: income disparities, changing demographics of our society (i.e., an aging population), shrinking resources in the face of increased demands, a slow economic recovery (further complicated by—among other things—the shift from manufacturing to services in Illinois), and underfunded pensions. These are just some of the things to address while figuring out how to deal with the delivery of human services.

He further remarked about the Affordable Care Act: how it is intertwined in the Framework, how Illinois will be working with the community to develop and seek an 1115 waiver (which may include a collapse of existing waivers) which should lead to better programming and more efficient use of resources. He further discussed the importance of building efficiencies, ensuring the provision of adequate and appropriate services.

Grace Hou introduced the purpose of the day as establishing a roadmap for how the group will work together moving forward, with an emphasis on respecting the value of the time and experience of the Commissioners. She then introduced Wendy Siegel, the meeting facilitator, to help facilitate the process and to help lay the groundwork for the working decorum of the Commission.

Wendy Siegel facilitated introductions and explained her role as one to help set a structure for efficient, effective, collegial meetings; to help create ground rules; to help set the foundation for the Commission moving forward.

Introductions were made, first in Springfield, then in Chicago.

Reviewed the rules of order:

The Steering Committee wanted to ensure good, deliberate, respectful functioning, to keep the group discussion at a fairly high-level and to stay focused on the big picture issues without

getting lost in the details. In this regard, Wendy presented a draft list of rules of engagement and asked for input from the Commissioners. The rules of engagement would be used as a guidepost for how future meetings would be conducted. Once these rules are established, if commissioners are not able to fulfill the responsibilities or abide by the established rules, they are encouraged to remove themselves from the commission. It is important for everyone to keep the rules front and center.

Rules were shared with the group, and discussion ensued:

Conference calls should be considered if quorum is an issue. The Steering Committee should discuss this.

Proxies are discouraged as a general rule, but it is understood that there may be extenuating circumstances when commissioners may not attend a meeting. It was discussed that accepting an appointment from the Governor is an acceptance of the responsibility of the Commission and dates of meetings will be provided in advance as to accommodate schedules.

Public comment will be welcome at the end of each meeting and after key agenda items, as needed.

To avoid a lack of quorum at meetings and to respect each other's time, commissioners should be proactive about informing staff on their attendance.

The legislation of the HSC does not speak to the requirements for quorum, but it was generally agreed that quorum is 51%.

Wendy Siegel confirmed that everyone is generally in favor of the rules of order. This was not a vote, and everyone agreed.

Workgroup Presentations:

FRAMEWORK: Judith Gethner, Jim Lewis. First Meeting: October 31, 1:00-3:00

Judith remarked that roughly half of the group has heard of the framework, which officially started December 1, 2012. She acknowledged Sean Vinck and Kathleen Monahan and the work they have done to move the Framework forward. The Framework is a project that is leveraging multiple federal investments to adopt a more efficient and comprehensive approach to service delivery and to accessing health and human services. The goal is to develop a sustainable foundation of interoperable systems and information sharing across seven state agencies - DHS, HFS, DoA, IDPH, DCFS, DCEO, IDES (for data sharing) - to enable Illinois to provide greater coordination in client services.

This workgroup will serve as an advisory group for the State, and will produce a workgroup report in April. The Framework is intended to streamline the process for both clients and government; how they know about State services, how they access State services, a single system within which to integrate all State IT systems...for State agencies, and consumers. The

Framework will also assist in identifying the health and human services information available to people to help inform responses to inquiries from legislators.

There is considerable overlap with Budgeting for Results, which requires a very robust data collection process. The Framework website contains implementation information.

INCREASING OPTIONS AND OPPORTUNITIES: Wynne Korr. No meeting date set.

The State has embarked on initiatives providing options for individuals to live in the community, increasing options and opportunities for people with disabilities and others who may need support to live in a community-based setting. This workgroup will provide a forum for input and guidance on the State's efforts, with a focus on accountability and accessibility. The group will also consider the perspectives of consumers and providers, asking and answering questions to ensure that the system is addressing the needs of all those engaged.

ONE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES SYSTEM: Candace King.

The focus of this workgroup is on trying to smoothly integrate the healthcare efforts going on, and integrating the Affordable Care Act. This group will spend time looking at what's happening with how human services are being funded (with the changes in health care and how it is being funded), and helping ensure people are enrolled and remain enrolled in the right health care plan. For providers, this group will focus on what they need to do to link with the health care system, and to help make sure a safety net remains available for those who do not fit in the first two slots.

There was discussion regarding the role of this group and possible duplication of work by the Alliance for Health. Julie Hamos suggested that the work of this group serve as a complement to the work currently being done around the 1115 waiver. Grace Hou reiterated that the Commission is a partnership with the State, and as such, Commission leadership is interested in doing things that are helpful to the State, to further the health of the State, serving as partners in planning and implementation. Candace King indicated an awareness of the work being done by the Alliance, and assured that the Commissioners are seeking to help direct where the State is going, to be supportive, and not duplicative. Tasha Cruzat will email sign-in sheets for the workgroups and will receive electronic responses.

Meeting take-aways:

1. The rules of engagement were agreed to. Everyone has agreed to abide by them; any questions of clarification are welcome from the group.
2. Commissioners will make every possible effort to attend meetings in person and not send a proxy. Meeting dates:
 - a. January 15, 2:00-4:00
 - b. April 16, 2:00-4:00
 - c. June 18, 2:00-4:00
3. Public involvement/comment/participation will be addressed at the end of each meeting.
4. Proxy's for workgroups are fine, and preferred if they are subject matter experts.
5. Commissioners will take care to inform staff of any inability to attend meetings in advance of the meeting.

How did we do, what would you change:

- A number of Commissioners indicated that the format/setup is awkward, with the desk-chairs, no tables, and that it was difficult to hear;
- ISBE offered their space and V-Tel services;
- One Commissioner suggested that it would have been helpful to have more information about the HSC for those unfamiliar with the first Commission. Grace Hou indicated that she would be willing to provide a briefing to whoever would like one.

Wendy Siegel asked for public comment, of which there was none.

The meeting was adjourned.